may be ordered to be effected during the survey on the application of the khatedar or his co-occupants. Such sub-divisions though standing in the khate of another will enable co-occupants and others to get their names separately registered on application to Revenue or Civil Courts.

Reply of Government.—After careful consideration the minima have been recently reduced by Government in their Order No. R. 3366-75—L. R. 590-05-8, dated 29th November 1907. They cannot again be reduced further so soon. As has been explained in Government Order No. R 8139-48—L. R. 351-07-4, dated 13th June 1908, the sub-division of survey numbers cannot be allowed merely to enable a person not possessing the entire interest in a survey number to pay only the kandayam on his share. He can get his interests protected sufficiently by getting his name registered in the Special Notice Register or having his share entered in the khate under Rule 75, if his case falls under it. Sub-division subject to the prescribed minima is freely permitted during the revision survey, and even after it is completed, if it is found that any survey number is of an inconvenient size, the Survey Department will afford the necessary facilities for its sub-division.

SUBJECT No. 120.

Boundary marks for sub-divisions of survey numbers.

Mr. Venkoba Rao, Hole-Narsipur Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—When a portion of a survey number is sub-divided and given out for cultivation, the remaining extent is not marked off by boundary marks. When this portion is applied for and given out for cultivation, disputes arise between the two holders owing to the non-existence of marks defining their lands. Hence all sub-divided portions may be provided with proper boundary marks.

Reply of Government.—Cannot be done.

SUBJECT No. 121.

Substitution of stone bandhs for mud ones as in Madras.

Mr. Lakshminarasimhachar, Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—It is prayed that during the Revenue Survey operations, the system obtaining in Madras of substituting stone bandhs for earthen ones may be introduced, as this will prevent disputes between raiyats.

Reply of Government.—The subject was brought forward in 1906, and it was finally decided that the proposal could not be adopted. (*Vide* Subject No. 114 of 1906.)

SUBJECT No. 122.

Reduction of assessment during the re-survey and settlement.

(1) Mr. D. Venkataramaiya, Bangalore City Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—(1) Fluctuating rain-fall, the silting up of tank beds and the erroneous calculation of achkats when compared with the existing capacities of tanks are tending to make agriculture a very precarious means of living in the case of those who do not depend upon ragi cultivation. Except in the cases where lands are watered from river channels and in the case of lands under big tanks, where the water-supply does not fail, the Government may be pleased to enunciate for

guidance the principle that the revised assessment of wet and garden lands should be reduced and brought down to the lowest possible limit. Agriculturists and non-agriculturists who own such garden and wet lands feel the rigidity of the rules regarding remission. When crops fail, the owners of such lands have to make good the Government assessment from their other sources of income. It is desirable to make them devote their whole energies to agriculture and not render it necessary for them to have other means of livelihood when cultivation is found to be unprofitable owing to the heavy assessment.

(2) Messrs. Sasul Timme Gowda, Tumkur Taluk and Y. Rama Rao, Tumkur Municipality.

(2) When the present high rates of land revenue assessment were brought to the notice of the Government, relief was promised to be given during the re-survey operations. As the re-survey is finished and the jamabandi or settlement is about to be done, it is requested that the Revenue Survey authorities may be asked to consider the question of reducing the assessment on wet and garden lands. If it is not reduced now, we may have to wait for another thirty years.

Many tanks have silted up considerably since their last restoration and their present storage capacity is not sufficient for the *achkat*. In many cases some part of the *achkat* will have to be cut off from the tank and re-assessed as dry.

(3) Mr. Kesaviengar, Belur Taluk.

(3) The re-survey of the Belur Taluk is in progress. The rate of wet assessment in the malnad is high in proportion to the yield from the lands. The rate of assessment may therefore be reduced at the ensuing settlement.

Reply of Government.—Revision survey and settlement is introduced entirely with the object of making the assessment levied on cultivable lands correspond with any changes of condition they may have undergone through natural causes or any increase in their value which may have resulted by a rise in prices due to improvements in communication or increased facilities for transport or extension of irrigation made at the cost of Government. Improvements effected in the lands by the efforts of the owners themselves are not taken into consideration in revising the assessment. Unlike the case in the Bombay Presidency the soil classification is left undisturbed. The water classification is alone examined and where there is a deterioration in the water-supply according to which the land was originally classed, the assessment is reduced. If lands have ceased to receive any water, they are classed as dry and if in any case they are still retained as wet, it is due to the owners being unwilling to have them treated as dry in the expectation that they may be able to raise

wet crops on them whenever the tank on which they are dependent receives an abundant supply of water. The assessment on these lands is however fixed very low in consideration of the precariousness of the water-supply. In the case of garden lands, a liberal policy has been adopted whereby dry lands converted into garden since the original settlement by the digging of wells which are self dependent are still charged with dry rates and the garden assessment has been reduced in other cases so as not to exceed the maximum wet rates. The result has been that in the revision the percentage of increase in the total assessment has been very small and is very low as compared with the increase in the bordering British Indian Taluks as will appear from the following statement:—

Taluk			Percentage of increase or decrease
Davangere Ranibennur	...	...	+ 22 + 40·1
Sorab Hangal Sirsi	...	...	+ 14 + 46·1 + 43·50
Sagar Siddapur	...	...	— 5 + 42·4
Shikarpur Late Kod	...	...	+ 8·44 + 39

The rates have in consequence been received very favourably and no complaints of any excessive enhancement have been received from anywhere.

SUBJECT No. 123.

Numbering of unassessed Government waste into minimum cultivable areas.

Mr. Mudvirasetti, Closepet Sub-Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The present system of dividing Government waste land into survey numbers of large extent causes great delay in obtaining such lands for cultivation, especially in tracts where assessed survey numbers fit for cultivation are not available. The division of these into survey numbers of small extent will not only be encouraging to cultivators but also advantageous to Government.

Reply of Government.—The proposed sub-division of all unassessed Government waste will be extremely costly and will not serve any useful purpose. As a rule when these lands are otherwise suitable for cultivation and they have not been reserved for special purposes such as gomal, forest, etc., there should ordinarily be no difficulty in getting them sub-divided and obtaining them as soon as their grant is sanctioned. The present shekdars have been trained to attend to such sub-divisions.

SUBJECT No. 124.

Admissibility in evidence of the preliminary survey records.

Mr. H. Rama Rao, Tumkur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—When the subject of granting copies of survey records connected with the holdings of raiyats was moved last year, Government observed that the request could not be granted as the records were only preliminary and not final. Such records may therefore be treated as inadmissible in evidence in courts.